

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 22-23.

Please amend Claims 24, 26-29, and 42.

Claim Status

1-21. (Canceled)

22-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A coated nickel hydroxide having a cobalt hydroxide coating, wherein the nickel hydroxide is stable to oxidation, and wherein the coating has 1 to 200 mmol of one or more anions of weak inorganic oxygen acids per mol of cobalt(II) hydroxide, and wherein on the surface of the cobalt hydroxide coating is at most a monomolecular layer of said anions of the weak inorganic oxygen acids.

25. (Previously Presented) The nickel hydroxide according to Claim 24, wherein the anion is CO₃.

26. (Currently Amended) The nickel hydroxide according to Claim ~~[[22]]~~ 24, wherein the nickel hydroxide is in the form of powder and wherein the nickel hydroxide has an average particle size (D50 value, measured by the Mastersizer method) of 0.5 to 500 µm.

27. (Currently Amended) The nickel hydroxide according to Claim ~~[[22]]~~ 24, wherein the nickel hydroxide is a coating on a substrate.

28. (Currently Amended) The nickel hydroxide according to Claim ~~[[22]]~~ 24, wherein the nickel hydroxide comprises an amount of 0.2 to 25 wt.% in total of a doping element selected from the group consisting of Mg, Ca, Sr, Sc, Y, La, lanthanoids, Ti, Zr, Cr, Mo, W, Mn, Fe, Co, Cu, Zn, Cd, B, Al, Ga, In, Si, P, As, Sb and Bi, and combinations thereof.

29. (Currently Amended) The nickel hydroxide according to Claim ~~[[22]]~~ 24, wherein the nickel hydroxide has water molecules at interstitial sites in an amount of up to 10 wt.%.

30 - 41 (Withdrawn)

42. (Currently Amended) The coated nickel hydroxide of Claim ~~[[22]]~~ 24, wherein a doped or non-doped nickel hydroxide is coated with stabilized cobalt(II) hydroxide.

43. (Previously Presented) An electrode material in a secondary battery comprising the nickel hydroxide of Claim 42.